From: Steve Sielaff
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 7:55am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have worked in the technology field for years. I have seen Microsoft crush the choices out of the industry. They have such a strong share of the market that the prices have gone through the roof for operating systems and programs. Now Microsoft is intentionally losing millions to start taking over the home entertainment industry through the X-box which costs $100 more to produce then they are selling it for.

I have seen the majority of dangerous and costly viruses attacking the worlds computers because the Microsoft programs are not secure, until it hurts market share.

I have seen Microsoft try to squash any movement of the people that may move the country into a position of having choices. For example I have read articles on how they sent internal memos out to destroy java as a programming language.

I have also witnessed Microsoft's tactics of not conforming to standards if they are the owners of a product that is predominating in the market so they can further crush competition. For example internet explorer does not conform to all the html standards and Microsoft continually tried to institute new and Microsoft only coding standards for web sites. At the same time they have publicly criticized America Online for not creating and following strict standards making sure they can take over the instant message programs by including it in the operating system.

Microsoft is a giant that destroys competition. If they can do it with a good product, well that is free enterprise. But it is my personal feeling that they destroy competition through all means, legal and otherwise. I feel that the economy will suffer long term if Microsoft is not broken up.

Also I think that flooding out schools with Microsoft computers only ensures that they will have much more future sells and is no good deal for the American people.

Steven Sielaff